## Proclamation

- WHEREAS, the City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge recognizes that understanding geospatial concepts is vital to the wise use of our land, continued economic development, and the general health and welfare of all citizens; and
- WHEREAS, Geographic Information System (GIS) technologies are capable of supporting cartography, planning, infrastructure management, emergency preparedness, conservation, socio-economic research, statistical analysis, and much more; and
- WHEREAS, the management, use, and exchange of geographic data is essential for effective decision-making; and
- WHEREAS, there is a need to promote GIS awareness, education, and technical training among various groups to appropriately and effectively utilize this rapidly developing technology; and
- WHEREAS, the City-Parish Department of Information Services manages the East Baton Rouge Parishwide GIS Program, coordinating efforts to eliminate duplication, reduce costs, develop and maintain standards, and share geospatial data, methods, and knowledge; and
- WHEREAS, the City-Parish is committed to utilizing GIS technology to better serve its residents and making geospatial data. Maps and applications accessible to the public; and
- WHEREAS, over the course of the past year, the City-Parish has made significant strides in advancing its GIS Program through the development of a new Map Portal, and working together as one team to extend GIS capabilities into the daily operations of City-Parish departments and other agencies; and
- WHEREAS, GIS Day is an international celebration of the GIS user community, governmental and mom-governmental organizations, and citizens.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Melvin "Kip" Holden, Mayor-President of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge, hereby do proclaim

**NOVEMBER 18, 2015** 

AS

## GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS DAY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Baton Rouge and the Parish of East Baton Rouge, to be affixed upon this eighteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and fifteen.

Melvin L. "Kip" Holden